

MARY E. ROBINSON.

JUNE 3, 1898.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. STURTEVANT, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 9293.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 9293) granting a pension to Mary E. Robinson, have examined the same and the evidence and respectfully report:

The effect of this bill will be to pension at \$12 per month Mary E. Robinson, of Reading, Pa., who was married in 1858 to David Hollenback, late of Company D, Third Pennsylvania Reserve Volunteers.

Soldier enlisted June 4, 1861, and died in service November 14, 1863. Claimant was pensioned as his widow from the date of his death until January 14, 1866, when she was remarried. She was divorced from her second husband in 1887—from no fault of hers—and is now dependent, having no property, income, or means of support. She keeps house for her son, who has lost his wife, and in that way gets her board; but her son is not able to provide for her, nor is he legally bound to do so. A cousin has been contributing clothes and some money to her but is no longer able to do so.

Claimant is 55 years of age, in effect a widow, and in necessitous circumstances.

The case is within the rule established by the committee, and is a worthy one.

The bill is reported back with the recommendation that it pass when amended as follows:

In lines 5 and 6 strike out the words "Act approved June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety," and insert "pension laws."

In line 7 strike out "Hollenbach as."

At the end of line 9 add the words "and pay her a pension at the rate of twelve dollars per month."

Amend the title so as to read: "A bill granting a pension to Mary E. Robinson."

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, *County of Philadelphia, ss:*

Personally appeared before me, a notary public within and for the county and State aforesaid, Mary F. Eckstein, aged — years, a resident of Philadelphia, Pa., whose post office address is No. 1505 Centennial avenue, Philadelphia, Pa., who, being duly sworn according to law, declares as follows:

I am the cousin of Mary Hollenbach, who resides in the city of Reading, Pa.; that the said Mary Hollenbach was married to David Hollenbach, deceased; that she is now, and has for a long time been, in destitute circumstances. She is dependent and has no income or means of support. She keeps house for her son, who is unable to maintain her. I have given her clothing for a number of years. I have also sent her money from time to time, sometimes as much as \$5 and upward in a month, but not always that much nor regularly. This was to provide for her necessities. I have been and am unable now to do even this much to assist her, nor will I be able to do so in the future. I am not in any way legally bound to contribute to her support at all, but have done so simply out of sympathy for her in her want and poverty, and because of her being a relative.

MARY F. ECKSTEIN.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 3d day of March, 1898.

[SEAL.]

JOHN J. MINNICK, *Notary Public.*

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, *County of Berks, ss:*

Personally appeared before me, a notary public of city of Reading, within and for the county and State aforesaid, Hunter M. Foreman, aged 21 years, whose post-office address is 236 North Second street, Reading, county of Berks and State of Pennsylvania, who, being duly sworn according to law, declares as follows:

That he is the secretary of the First Universalist Society of Berks County, Pa., and that he is the custodian of the records of said church; that the following is a true extract of the record of marriages:

"David Hollenbach, jr., and Miss Mary E. Drenkle were united in marriage on the evening of the third day of January, 1858.

"J. SHRIGLEY."

HUNTER M. FOREMAN, *Secretary.*

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28th day of February, 1898.

[SEAL.]

WILLIAM O. CORNMAN, *Notary Public.*

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, *County of Berks, ss:*

Personally appeared before me, a notary public of Reading, within and for county and State aforesaid, Howard S. Reeser, M. D., a resident of Reading, county of Berks and State of Pennsylvania, who, being duly sworn, declares that Mary E. Hollenbach, whose maiden name was Drenkel, is the widow of David Hollenbach, a deceased soldier.

That he knew both the widow and her deceased husband long before the late civil war; that he remembers very well when he was sick and also when he died; that he was very intimately acquainted with him; that he also knew the widow, Mary E. Hollenbach, from childhood; that he was also the physician of her parents' family and attended her mother up to the time of her death.

DR. HOWARD S. REESER.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 7th day of March, 1898.

[SEAL.]

WILLIAM O. CORNMAN, *Notary Public.*

READING, PA., *February 11, 1898.*

DEAR SIR: I took Mrs. Mary E. Hollenbach's affidavit, in accordance with your letter of instruction. If anything else, you can inform me.

Yours, truly,

W. O. CORNMAN.

Mary Hollenbach's affidavit does not show affirmatively that she was the lawful wife of David Hollenbach, who served in such and such capacity in the late civil war, that she was his wife during the war, nor does it show when he died.

The affidavits of her son and cousin should also be taken and sent along.

Very respectfully,

DANIEL ERMENTROUT.

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, *County of Berks, ss:*

Personally appeared before me, a notary public of the city of Reading, within and for the county and State aforesaid, Mary E. Hollenbach, aged 55 years, a resident of the city of Reading, county of Berks and State of Pennsylvania, who, being duly sworn according to law, declares as follows: That her first husband, David Hollenbach, was an orderly sergeant in Company D, Third Regiment Pennsylvania Reserve Corps; that she was a pensioner under the general law prior to her second marriage to Henry C. Robinson; that she was divorced from Henry C. Robinson, April 2, 1887, the same being recorded in the county of Philadelphia, Pa., September term 1886, No. 9.

That the divorce was without blame on her part; that she applied for it herself on the ground of nonsupport; that she could have had it on the ground of infidelity, but did not press upon this out of respect for his family; that she is absolutely without any support; has no means whatever; that she keeps house for her son and gets no money for her services; that a cousin of hers in Philadelphia keeps her in clothing and sends her a dollar a month; that she was married to David Hollenbach January 3, 1858; that her husband died November 14, 1863.

MARY E. HOLLENBACH.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 11th day of February, 1898, at Reading, Pa.

[SEAL.]

WILLIAM O. CORNMAN, *Notary Public.*

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, *County of Berks, ss:*

Personally appeared before me, a notary public of Reading, within and for the county and State aforesaid, Charles H. Hollenbach, aged 39 years, a resident of Reading, county of Berks and State of Pennsylvania, whose post-office address is No. 330 Franklin street, Reading, Pa., who, being duly sworn according to law, declares as follows:

That Mary E. Hollenbach is his mother; that she lives with him and keeps house for him; that he is unable to do anything toward her support or pay her wages, but she merely has a home for doing the housework; that she has a cousin in Philadelphia by the name of Mary F. Eckstein, who has been supplying his mother with clothing and has been contributing about \$1 a month toward her support for a number of years, but for some time back she has been unable to do anything for her. That he is not legally bound to support his mother; that he has nothing but his wages to fall back upon. That his wife is dead and his mother has taken her place in the household.

CHARLES H. HOLLENBACH.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 2d day of March, 1898.

[SEAL.]

WILLIAM O. CORNMAN, *Notary Public.*

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